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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 06502 160659Z

20
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SCA-01 L-02 H-02 DODE-00 EA-06 /044 W
---------- 030636
R 160545Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2792

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6502

CAMBODIA-B NO. 31

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, CB
SUBJECT: PROTECTING POWER

REF: (A) STATE 84094; (B) BANGKOK 6254 (CAMBODIA-B NO. 2)

1. REF (A) ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON A POSSIBLE PROTECTING POWER FOR US INTERESTS IN CAMBODIA, AND REF (B) PROMISED A FULLER REPLY WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

2. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF US PROPERTY AND INTERESTS IN CAMBODIA: THE US OWNED NO REAL PROPERTY IN PHNOM PENH. WHAT WAS LEFT BEHIND WERE VEHICLES (WE UNDERSTAND CONFISCATED BY THE GKR AND FANK FOLLOWING OUR DEPARTURE), HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE FURNITURE, FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT, EXPENDABLE OFFICE SUPPLIES, MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT, GENERATORS, RADIO EQUIPMENT, AND COMMISSARY GOODS, TOTALLING APPROXIMATELY $2,500,000 IN VALUE, ALL OR MOST OF WHICH WE CAN PRESUME HAS BEEN SYSTEMATICALLY LOOTED AFTER OUR DEPARTURE. ALL FILES AND RECORDS HAD EARLIER BEEN SHIPPED OUT OR DESTROYED. IN SHORT, THERE ARE PROBABLY LITTLE OR NO PHYSICAL ASSETS LEFT TO BE PROTECTED.

3. AS FAR AS PROTECTION OF AMCITS REMAINING IN CAMBODIA IS CONCERNED, DEPT IS AWARE THAT WE ATTEMPTED
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 06502 160659Z

TO EVACUATE ALL AMCITS ON APRIL 12 AS PART OF "EAGLE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

PULL",AND THOSE WHO REMAINED BEHIND DID SO BY THEIR
OWN CHOICE.

4. THE US HAS NOT BROKEN, OR EVEN SUSPENDED, RELATIONS
WITH THE GKR, TO WHICH AMBASSADOR DEAN REMAINS
ACCREDDITED. THE QUESTION OF A PROTECTING POWER WOULD
NOT SEEM TO ARISE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE GKR HAS CEASED
TO EXIST AND A SUCCESSOR REGIME IS ESTABLISHED WITH WHICH
WE CLEARLY DO NOT HAVE RELATIONS, AND UNTIL SUCH TIME
AS AN EMBASSY OF SOME OTHER FRIENDLY POWER (FOR EXAMPLE)
AUSTRALIA) IS OPENED IN PHNOM PENH AND ACCREDITED TO
THAT REGIME. AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, THERE ARE NO
FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN PHNOM PENH AT THE PRESENT
TIME.

5. FOR ALL THE ABOVE REASONS, THE QUESTION OF A
PROTECTING POWER FOR US INTERESTS IN CAMBODIA APPEARS
MOOT AT THE PRESENT TIME.
MASTERS

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NNN

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